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Staff Box: (In order of appearance)

Bea and Justice: Did not answer

Grace: "A magical place!"

Toby: "A cesspool of nonsense."

Chloe: "A piece of pizza in a bowl."

Nora: "It's that thing where you submit poetry and short stories here."

S: "It's like the Onion of Hampshire."

Jackie: "It's some sort of prediction, I think."

Front Cover: Chloe Omelchuck

Back Cover: Mostly William Nicholson

Submissions are due always, constantly, so submit forever. You can submit in rich text or plain text format by CD, Flash Drive, singing telegram, carrier pigeon, paper airplane, Fed-Ex, Pony Express, or email. Get your submissions to omen@hampshire.edu, or Chloe's mailbox (369).

Policy

The Omen is a biweekly publication that is the world's only example of the consistent application of a straightforward policy: we publish all signed submissions from members of the Hampshire community that are not libelous. Send us your impassioned yet poorly-thought-out rants, self-insertion fan fiction, MS Paint comics, and whiny emo poetry: we'll publish it all, and we're happy to do it. The Omen is about giving you a voice, no matter how little you deserve it. Since its founding in December of 1992 by Stephanie Cole, the Omen has hardly ever missed an issue, making it Hampshire's longest-running publication.

Your Omen submission (you're submitting right now, right?) might not be edited, and we can't promise any spellchecking either, so any horrendous mistakes are your fault, not ours. We do promise not to insert comical spelling mistakes in submissions to make you look foolish.

Your submission must include the name you use around campus: an open forum comes with a responsibility to take ownership of your views. (Note: Views expressed in the Omen do not necessarily reflect the views of the Omen editor, the Omen staff, or anyone, anywhere, living or dead.)

The Omen staff consists of whoever shows up for Omen layout, which usually takes place on alternate Thursday nights in the basement of Merrill A in the company of a computer with an extremely inadequate monitor. You should come. We don't bite. You can find the Omen on other Thursdays in Saga, the post office, or on the door of your mod.

THE OFFICIAL OMEN HAIKU:

Views in the Omen (5)

Do not necessarily (7)

Reflect the staff's views (5)

EDITORIAL

Chloe Anne Omelchuck

Hello Everyone!

Whether you're a long-time Omen reader or you just picked it up because you saw the stack of issues lying around, thanks for reading! This is my first issue as editor. For those who don't know, I know next to nothing about the Omen, and while I know a bit more about editing I don't have much experience there either. However, I think that I'll somehow manage (what I'm most worried about is this whole roasted pig business, but I guess I'll cross that bridge when I come to it). I'm not actually quite sure why I agreed to be editor, I'm no div three, but I've still got altogether too much work to do. Oh well, life's no fun unless you've got no time.

In any case, the Omen is kind of my soulmate publication. I love to be confusing, and I love to be strangely detailed, and I love randomness, all of which are things that can be found here at the Omen. The biggest problem that I can foresee is these editorials where I have to express my opinion. I have opinions, but I really mostly enjoy hearing what other people have to say about them. Yet another reason (there are many) to submit to the Omen!

All break, I've been walking around this week pondering the weather (sunny or rainy, I still love it), what I should do for art, what I should do for writing, and even considering doing some work. Sadly, I will probably have no less work to do after the break, but so it goes (Vonnegut, anyone?). Life's no fun unless you've got no time and also procrastinate so you have even less.

I don't really know that much about Hampshire, but so far I really like it here. What they say about Hampshire students is really true: we have passion, and we aren't afraid to use it to get stuff done. What irritates me about that is that once Hampshire students decide on that passion they pursue it to the exclusion of all else. Maybe it's just me, a person who really has trouble deciding on any one thing that I really like, but it seems that it would be nice to show a little interest in other people's works now and again (and not just to lambast them for whatever you don't like about it). Life's no fun without surprises and chaos (a philosophy with most likely explains why I have no time)!

As editor, and like all editors before me, I encourage you to submit stuff to the Omen. Submit your art, your writing, your papers (maybe abstracts?), whatever you're working on (or something you've finished).

I refuse to apologize for any long sentences, kooky sentence structure, and excessive parenthesis that may have offended your grammatical and syntactic sensibilities. It's part of my goal of confusing you.

That editrix person,
Chloe

Section Speak

Xavier Speaks

*"Here's something I wrote on Business & Entrepreneurship, to be published everywhere.
Hope you like it <3."*

First of all, I pose a legitimate question: is it possible to be an ethical, systematically aware social entrepreneur? The essential piece of 'being' an entrepreneur is the creation of a profitable enterprise, which is capable and adept of fully participating in capitalistic processes. Beyond the lofty ideal that "all Hampshire College students are entrepreneurs in making their own education," this is what we are talking about when we discuss 'social entrepreneurship' under capitalism. I know too many Hampshire students who will talk of the woes of capitalism, the unsustainability of free market economics, the horrific labor abuses imposed by neoliberal policy, the wars over oil and money the capitalist world promotes, the racial and gender violence such a system promotes, and so on. Then, the next day, these 'socially conscious,' supposedly systematically aware individuals, attempting to make change in the world, become Hampshire social entrepreneurs, new players in the world of capital, supply, demand, and, never forget, profit. My skepticism of the ethics of this conscious decision lies in this: if you are aware of the shortcomings of capitalism, why become an entrepreneur, and not an organizer? A founder of a non-profit? An actual creator of systemic change? Perhaps these students are attempting to "change the system from within," a hopeful endeavor of questionable success. But, I digress.

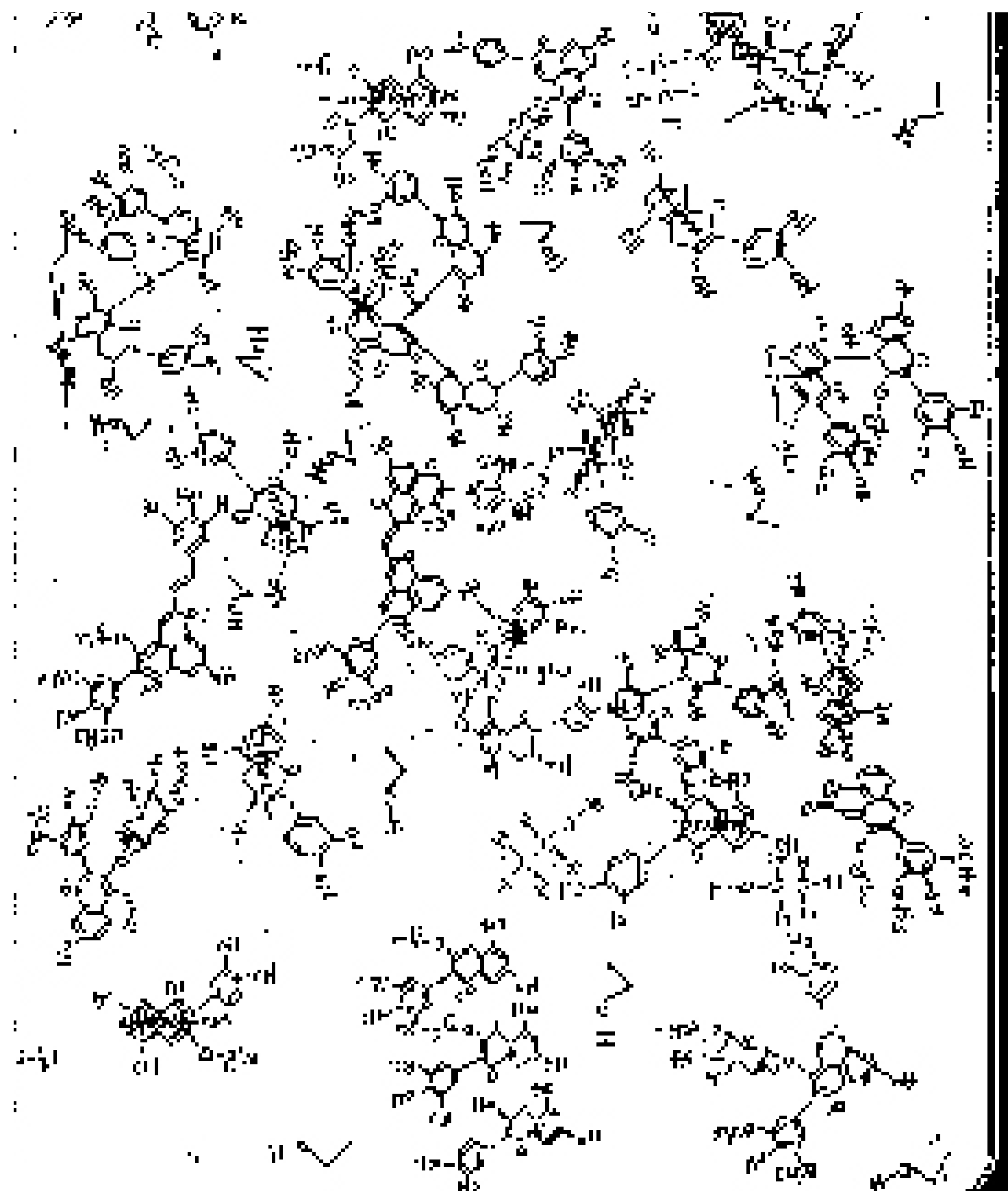
The reality is that, apparently, our school now offers "Business and Entrepreneurship," through our Center for Design (the Lemelson Building): <https://www.hampshire.edu/areas-of-study/business-and-entrepreneurship>. With three professors in this newest endeavor (two associate, one visiting, none permanent, all white men), this Area of Study promises a world that simply does not exist in our small, experimental, historically anti-business school. Among the list of 'Sample Courses,' the only one that is remotely business-related is "Social Entrepreneurship: Starting Your Own Socially Responsible Enterprise." Although I might have ideological and personal objections to the entire concept of social entrepreneurship, my biggest frustration is that this Area of Study (particularly the big, bold Business) at Hampshire College is just false. The school (consciously?) offers no academic courses on accounting, business law, financial management, international monetary systems, best investment practices, and so on. How can a college possibly make a successful social entrepreneur if said individual is not exposed to the inescapable weight of money, laws, exploitation, networking, and one-upping of the business world through classes? Of course, the conversation is a completely different one if Business and Entrepreneurship at Hampshire is targeted to high/middle-upper class students at the school, for whom money has never been an issue, and \$1 million, post-college loans from relatives is normative (à-la-Trump). In other words, social entrepreneurship for those that can afford to recycle capital into new profitable horizons to be lovingly consumed by 'progressive liberals.'

I have faced too many (ever-increasing in numbers) prospective students who want to study 'entrepreneurship,' who are enticed by the idea of 'putting their ideas into action,' who want to embody this very real Hampshire spirit. Okay, I ask, what ideas? What are you passionate about?

Why Hampshire? What do you want to explore? The answer is sometimes simply “entrepreneurship;” that is, these students want to make change, change the world, be social entrepreneurs, with no content, context, passion or knowledge in their minds other than, I believe, profit-making and an attraction to a school where no ideas are wrong, where you can (if you find the way) continuously enroll in entrepreneurship classes, create independent studies on entrepreneurship, and then execute an enterprise through your Div III. Of course, I am being exceptionally cynical, but my question remains: is Hampshire actually offering Business & Entrepreneurship, or is this a (very successful) publicity stunt? To close off, a final, practical question: where does Business & Entrepreneurship even fit under our 5 Interdisciplinary Schools? Apparently, based on the affiliated faculty’s pages, under Interdisciplinary Arts (IA).

-Xavier A. Torres de Janon (xat12)





WINE

A CHEMICAL SURVEY BY CHLOE OMELCHUCK

Recently, I have spent an extraordinarily long time on the internet researching the chemical composition of wine, more specifically, the pigments which make up its chemistry. As you may suspect, much of wine is just pure water, closely followed by ethanol (which is the alcohol component). Also, there are random H^+ atoms floating around because wine is acidic with a pH which varies between 2.9 and 3.9. There is also a certain amount of tannin in wine which is what gives it its astringent and bitter flavor. Now, here's where things get interesting. The main chemical responsible for forming color in wine is called anthocyanin (which sounds scary, but really isn't, it's just carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, though to be fair, those things also compose gasoline, sooo...). If you look closely, you can see where I've labeled a few of them in the drawing to the left. From this compound, all sorts of other interesting compounds can be formed including chains of anthocyanins and tannins. These compounds and their colors are listed here:

- *tannin-anthocyanin (red-brown)
- *polymeric anthocyanin pigment (red/brown, yellow/orange)
- *mediated anthocyanin (red-violet)

However, the most interesting out of all of these pigments belong to a class called pyranoanthocyanins which are different forms of anthocyanin which are formed as the wine ages. They have a lot of cool names and each one forms a different color, below you can find a list of them:

- *octovitisins (yellow)
- *pyranoanthocyanin dimers (turquoise)
- *flavanyl pyranoanthocyanin (orange)
- *pinotin A and B (red-orange)
- *Vitasin A and B (orange-yellow)
- *Portosin (blue-violet)

So, next time you drink a glass of wine and are in a state to think about it, remember the pigments!

Hello,

I am emailing you because I found your email listed as a signer on Hampedia for student groups that are related (or somewhat related) to a workshop I am organizing next Thursday, 3/3, 5-7:30 in FPH 104. It is a Regenerative Plants and Permaculture Workshop, co-taught by myself and alumni Felix Lufkin and Ned Jones. If possible, I am asking that you post about this workshop on your student group mailing list (or any other related mailing list). Here is an event description:

FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED

This is a workshop that is part of the Racial Justice, Regeneration and Permaculture EPEC / Workshop Series. In this workshop we will learn some fundamentals about permaculture design, principles, and strategies. The workshop will teach us about plants and their functions in permaculture design, as well as design elements that incorporate patterns we can observe in nature. We will be joined by alumni Felix Lufkin and Ned Jones, who are both Permaculture activists and enthusiasts.

Where: FPH 104

When: Thursday, 3/3/2016 5-7:30 PM.

^submitted by Colin Eldridge



Petition to create a bus route to the mall

As a disabled student I am, like many, consistently affected by the inaccessibility of the Hampshire Mall. I am fighting to institute a new direct bus route. I've talked to people all across campus and I know there is massive interest. Please sign my Facebook petition by following this link: <https://goo.gl/z4sY7f> (or scanning the QR code) and commenting under the original post with "Yes! I want a bus route from Hampshire to the mall!" If you do not have a Facebook account you can also sign the petition by emailing me directly at tgg14@hampshire.edu

How many of you have complained that we don't have a bus route between Hampshire College and the Hampshire Mall?

The two-hour long process of traveling from Hampshire to UMASS to the mall and back is horrifically annoying and time consuming at best and entirely inaccessible to our school's disabled students at worst. I contacted the PVTa by phone with this complaint and they asked for a formal inquiry in writing, with proof of support from other students. That's where you come in. Please sign this petition by commenting with "Yes! I want a bus route from Hampshire to the mall!" and share with all and any fellow Hampshire Students you know. We can make a change and a difference but we need each other's active support. It's that easy.

If you want to do more you can also contact Josh Rickman directly at jrickman@pvta.com with your thoughts about adding a route.

Nota Bene: And yes, Hampshire students did protest and stop the bus route that existed in 1979 (this was targeted at an organization called the FreeBus, not the PVTa that exists today)[<https://goo.gl/xeVxpO>], but it was in a much different time with students operating under very different priorities. They were protesting the Walmart at the time, and while this is important and valid, the immediate needs of students who don't have other means of access to daily necessities takes precedence. Students still shop at the Walmart without a bus route. Many of us, especially those who do not drive, rely on the mall for daily living supplies that allow us to continue attending this school, so it IS in the best interest of the PVTa to listen to us. Either way, the fact of the matter is that the PVTa already DOES have a route to the mall, but it is largely inaccessible, and it's the inaccessibility that needs to be fixed.

-
T Goodman
They/Them/Their pronouns
Hampshire College Student
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(617) 455-1405



OMEN ANGER, OMEN LOVE, OMEN CHAOS

By Chloe Omelchuck

Something that really frustrates me about Hampshire is all the anger that I see all the time. Anger at something someone else said, at content in the Omen (once again; if you don't like the Elvidillos and the Omen sheep, submit something!), at Donald Trump. I love arguing and expressing opinions, and I think that Hampshire does a really good job with that, but there's a difference between doing that and silencing other voices. I've heard people on this campus complain that some students at Hampshire act accepting and everything because they know other people at Hampshire would jump on them if they didn't, but deep down they still hold those prejudices. This complaint makes no sense to me. First of all, how do you know that they're still prejudiced if they act like they aren't? Second, why do you blame them for holding that prejudice inside them when it's you who shuts them down every time they say something you think is wrong? If you want people to voice their true opinions, you need to respect them for doing so. All of the blind self-righteous anger on this campus does nothing but make people afraid to speak.

If you want to make someone else understand your position, you also have to listen to what they have to say. There is no generic thought or opinion because everyone considers the issues differently. There's a reason that we call discussions about sensitive social issues a "dialogue." When you talk about social justice and environmental issues and economic problems, you're bringing up some valid points. But when you shut down anyone who believes that guns shouldn't be regulated or that carbon budgeting wouldn't work or that globalization isn't bad, you instantly fall into the trap of trying to make yours the only voice that counts. When you do this, you may think that you're being different from the likes of Donald Trump, but when you hate or disrespect people just because of their opinion, or just because of who they are or how they grew up, you put yourself on the same level as him. I'm not saying that it's bad to have passion, to follow what you think, to speak your mind, and to argue with people; as a matter of fact, that's exactly what I think you should do. I only ask that you recognize everyone else's right to do the same- no matter how angry they make you.

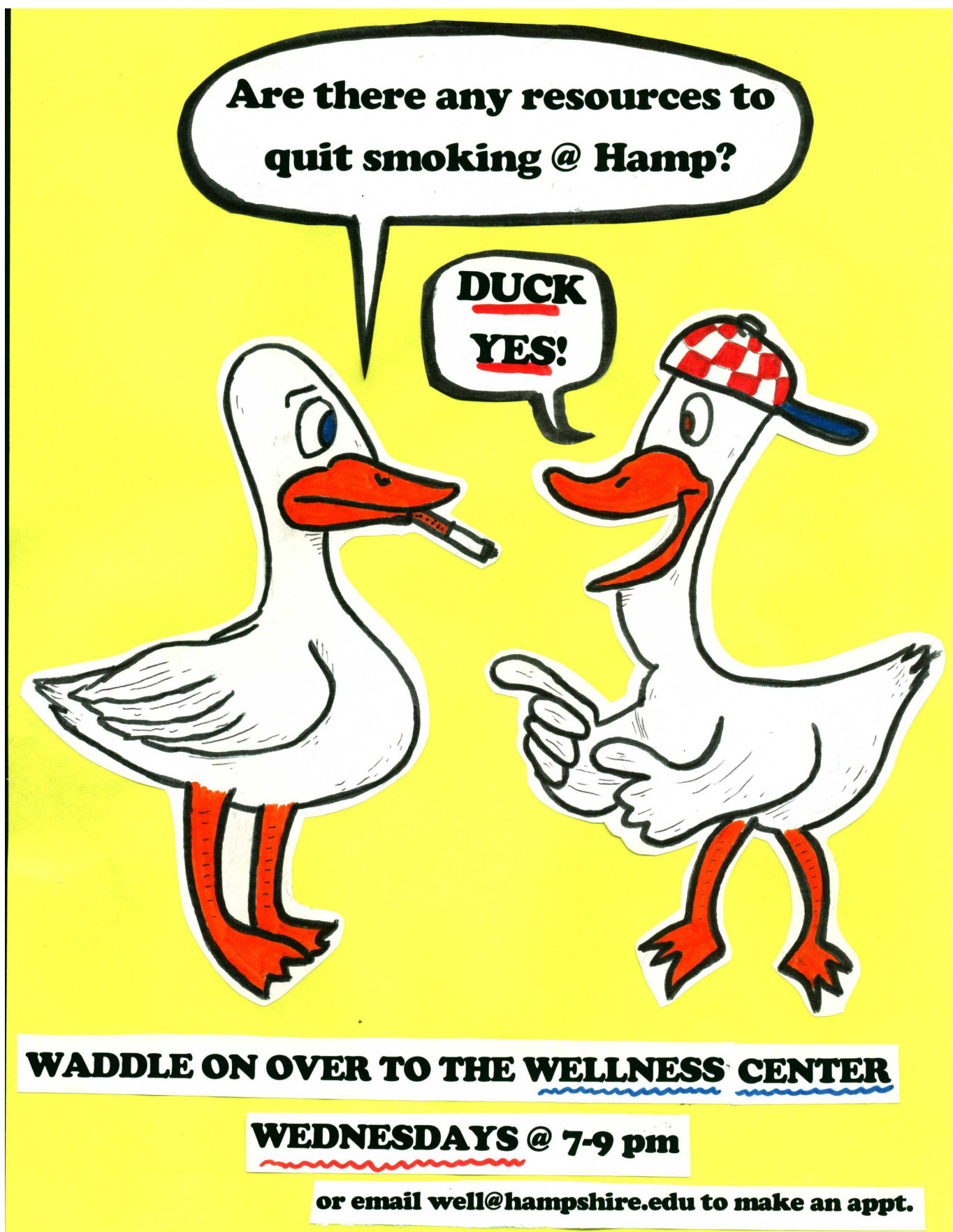
People have a right to their passions and their convictions and they have a right to speak about those thoughts, and this is true even if you think someone is wrong. Here's the thing; no matter how wrong you think another person is, their right to say their 'wrong' opinion is the same one that you exercise when you talk about all your 'right' ones. Opinions can be ill-informed, offensive, insulting, demeaning, and all-around enraging: that's why they're opinions. One of the speakers at orientation said something that really rang true for me; "you can try to change people's minds all you want, but you will never change someone else's opinion. People only ever change their own opinions. All you can do is give them information, something to think about, and hope that they change their mind."

The thing about equal rights is that they must be given even to those who are wrong. And I realize that I'm saying this coming from a position of a white person, that I don't have the same experiences as everyone else. Maybe my rage at the injustice isn't the same as some. Maybe because I haven't learned about all the horrors of this world, maybe because I'm a first year, maybe because I lack experience, maybe because I've never had any mental health issues,

because I'm ignoring all the horrible things people have done to each other, I don't know what I'm talking about. You can come up with thousands of reasons why any given person isn't qualified to speak on a topic, but there's really only one thing that matters: they have an opinion. After all, if what we're going for here is equality, we may as well start now and from every single direction. So when a div one (like my lovely self) expresses something ignorant, tell them that they're wrong, give them reasons, be passionate, but don't just get angry. Don't tell them that they're a first year, so what do they know? Because if you say that, there's no end. Because when you do that, you're not offering someone a different opinion, or even arguing with them, you're saying that their opinion doesn't matter. People are too young to understand, too old to understand, too much and too little, not enough. And everyone here should know what it feels like to be told that your thoughts don't matter, not because they think you're wrong, but because they don't think that you have a right to them.

This doesn't have to be difficult, it doesn't have to be painful. When people aren't afraid to speak, suddenly, there's such a great wealth of ideas. Pay attention to what other people are doing, to other people's thoughts and opinions, compare them to your own. Don't fear arguments. Arguments may bring out the fissures, the differences in opinion, but when a good argument is over, those differences of opinion aren't so dividing. A good argument isn't born out of anger at someone else's opinion, it grows out of a love of your own. Some of the best things in the world come out of collaboration (why do you think so many awesome academic papers have multiple authors?), so allowing people to speak is really the best thing that could happen. Every person has things that they have noticed about the world, different areas of expertise, interests, and it all swirls together in this lovely chaos we call humanity. So many people are afraid of that infinity, that chaos of ideas and plans and beliefs, and they believe that the only way to handle it is to ignore some of it. People believe that chaos is anarchy, but I'd disagree. True chaos is just like true randomness, there will be patterns and order mixed in. I believe that if we all let each other in on the chaos of our own minds and shared in the personal chaos of others, we would probably live in a much better world.

This issue is called apocalypse. Just like chaos, this word is misleading. It is used to describe the end of days, the death of all. However, the word apocalypse is derived from the greek apo- meaning "away," and -kalypsis, a veil. So I'll once again redefine a word and give it some more nuance: what apocalypse means is not the end of the world, but rather, the lifting of the veil between worlds. And while it's possible that such an event could cause destruction, I'm an eternal optimist. And so, dear readers, I leave you with this message: the Omen is a place for you to submit anything and everything all the time. I want your chaos, your thoughts, your random imaginings. I want your anger and your passion and your love. If you put it out there, you'll find a lot of people who disagree with you, and maybe it'll be the end of the world. But in the end, I think you'll find that it's just the lifting of the veil, because suddenly you'll have hundreds of other opinions and angles to think about. Submit to the Omen! Contribute to the Apocalypse! Omen=Chaos, Chaos=Omen (or something like that).



SECTION LIES

On 2015-10-28 15:15, Martin Rule wrote:

Hi,

I would like to submit something to the Omen, you people don't have a mailing address, so I can stick it in the mail, I'm not too good on computers?

-Marty

Reply:

Sure thing! If you have the time feel free to pop in on Thursday night between 8 p.m. and 1 in the morning and hand it in yourself. Otherwise B's mailbox 1666 or Grace's mailbox 735 are perfectly acceptable mailing addresses to send your submission to.

Have a lovely evening,

Grace

Later, in the Omen Office...

B Corfman: "I haven't seen any submissions."

Chloe Omelchuck: It's not just him ...

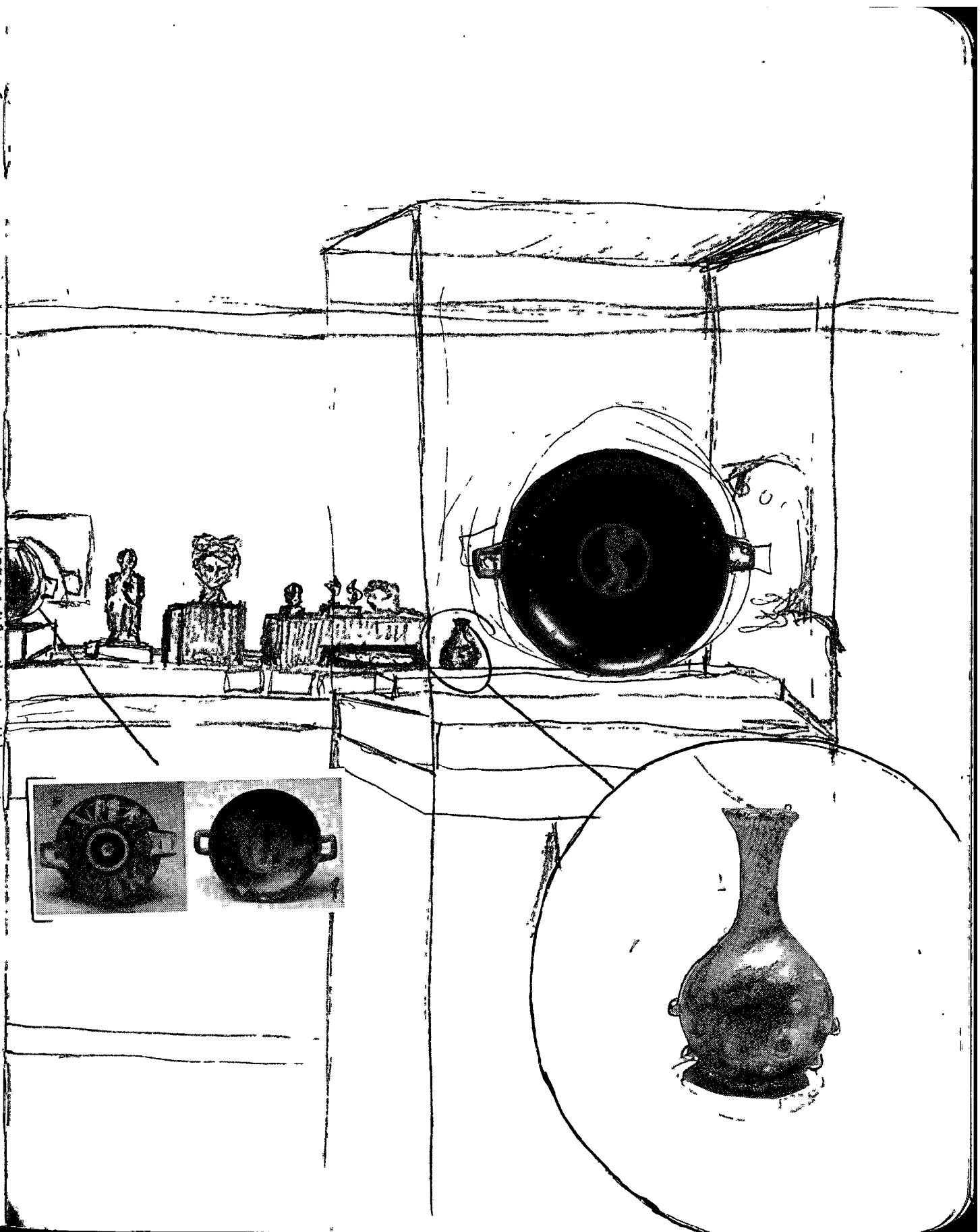


submitted by: Chloe
Omelchuck

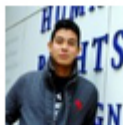


SMITH COLLEGE
MUSEUM OF ART
242337

^submitted by: Chloe Omelchuck



Eduardo Samaniego would like to stay in touch on LinkedIn.



Eduardo Samaniego
Policy Fellow at Rural Coalition
Washington D.C. Metro Area

Join Eduardo Samaniego and over 300 million other professionals already on LinkedIn.

Sign up to become Eduardo's newest connection.

Confirm that you know Eduardo

You received an invitation to connect. LinkedIn will use your email address to make suggestions to our members in features like People You May Know. [Unsubscribe](#)
This email was sent to Omen@hampshire.edu.
If you need assistance or have questions, please contact [LinkedIn Customer Service](#).

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^submitted by: Grace Willey

Eduardo Samaniego would like to connect on LinkedIn. How would you respond?



Eduardo Samaniego
Student Trustee at Hampshire College

Confirm you know Eduardo

You received an invitation to connect. LinkedIn will use your email address to make suggestions to our members in features like People You May Know. [Unsubscribe](#)
This email was sent to Omen@hampshire.edu.
If you need assistance or have questions, please contact [LinkedIn Customer Service](#).

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^submitted by Eduardo Samaniego

Please be informed that the below message was sent to some members of the zimbra.com, which contained a link to a page requesting your login information. This is a phishing* attack attempting to capture your user account information.

Actions:

IT IS NOT A VALID MESSAGE

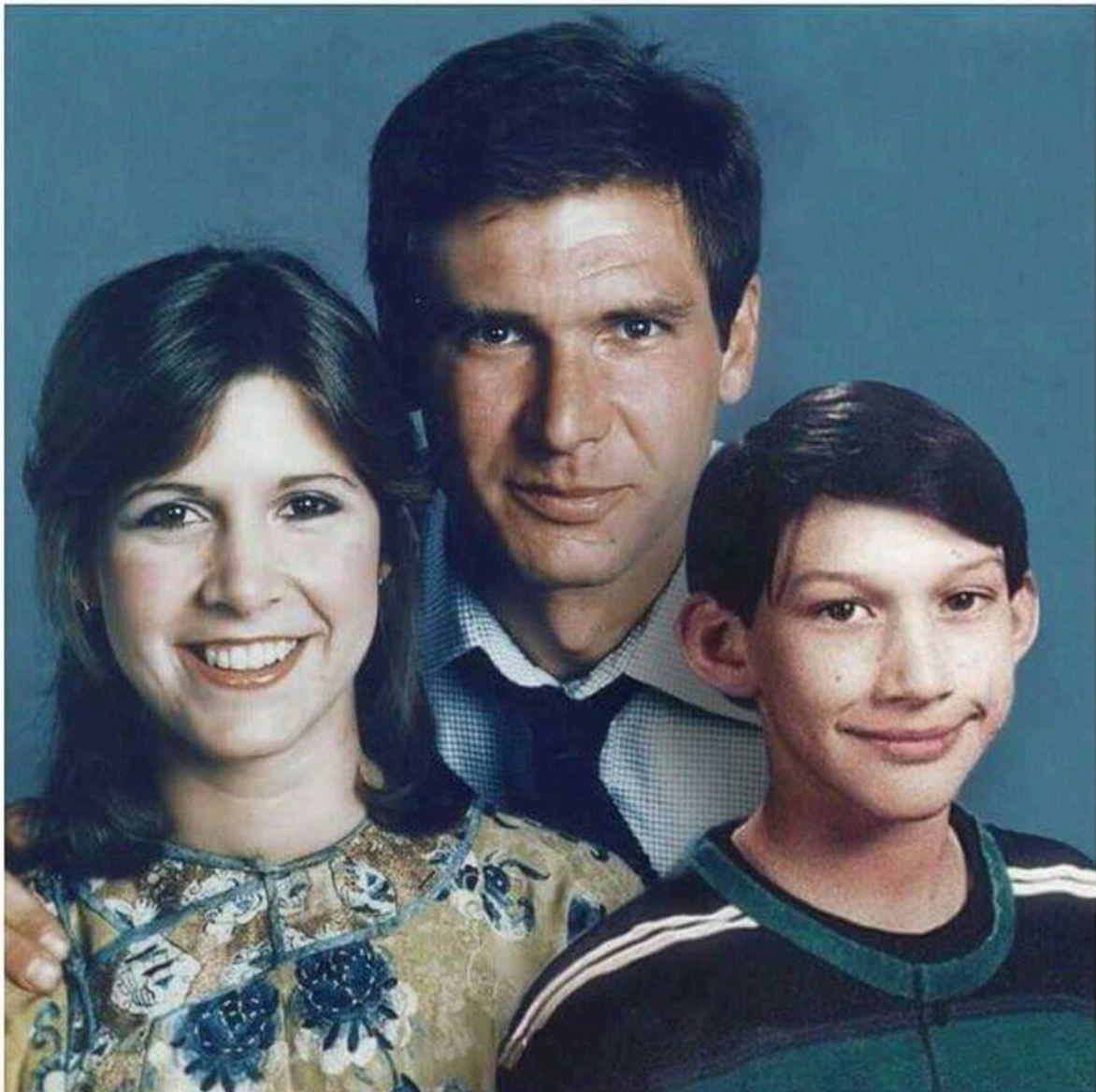
We request you to:

- NOT reply with your logon information
- NOT click the link or open the attachment
- Delete the message

If you have read or responded to the email click [here](#) to protect your mail box.

Regards

IT Announcements



^submitted by: Grace Willey

"ΑΗΑΗΑ, YOU THOUGHT YOU'D SEEN THE LAST OF ME!" -*Elvidillo*



submitted, to much
annoyance, by
Grace Willey

"It is me, the great and loveable Elvidillo!" Says the Elvidillo. Over the years, this noble creature has been the subject of much derision and distain amongst non-Omenites (and even among them). First bursting onto the scene around volume 41 (or even earlier), the Elvidillo has been a key part of the Omen's ecology and ecosystem. It coexists closely with the Omen sheep, its long time friend and companion, pictured below.



Created by Devin Morse on a hell a old apple computer (using an equally old photoshop), seriously, the thing has three dimensions. The Elvidillo is both aesthetically unique (just like the Omen itself) and a symbol of the times (prizes to anyone who can figure out exactly what that means).

Ecological profile written by Chloe Omelchuck with a much appreciated consultation with Grace Willey.

BATH TUB FUNNIES by M.A. RAT (FORMER EDITRIX F.



F. STEWART TAYLOR) ILLUSTRATED BY GRACE WILLEY



SECTION FIVE

Open this e-mail to learn more about this Campus Stop exclusive product!

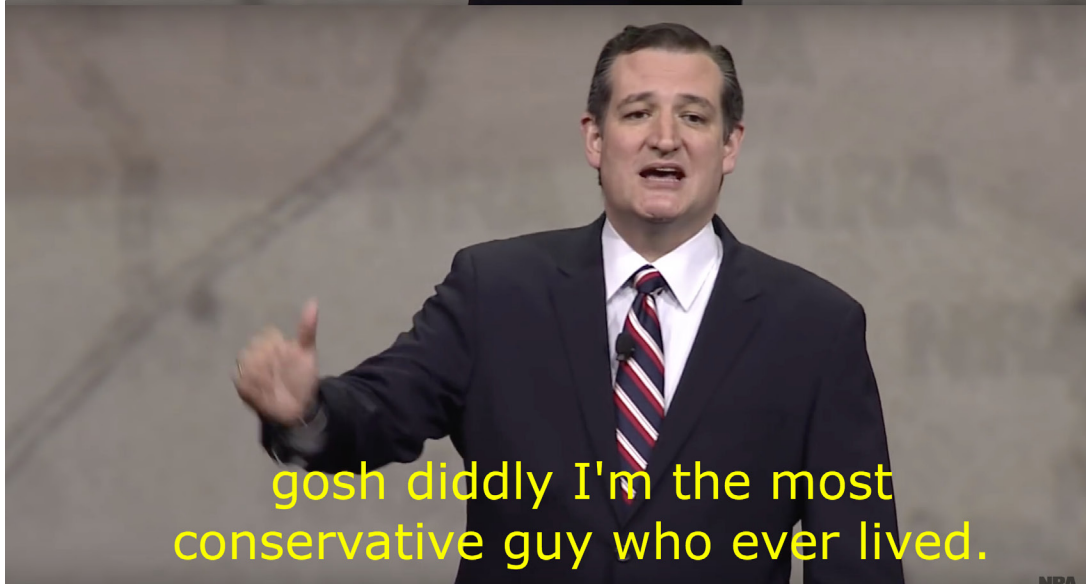
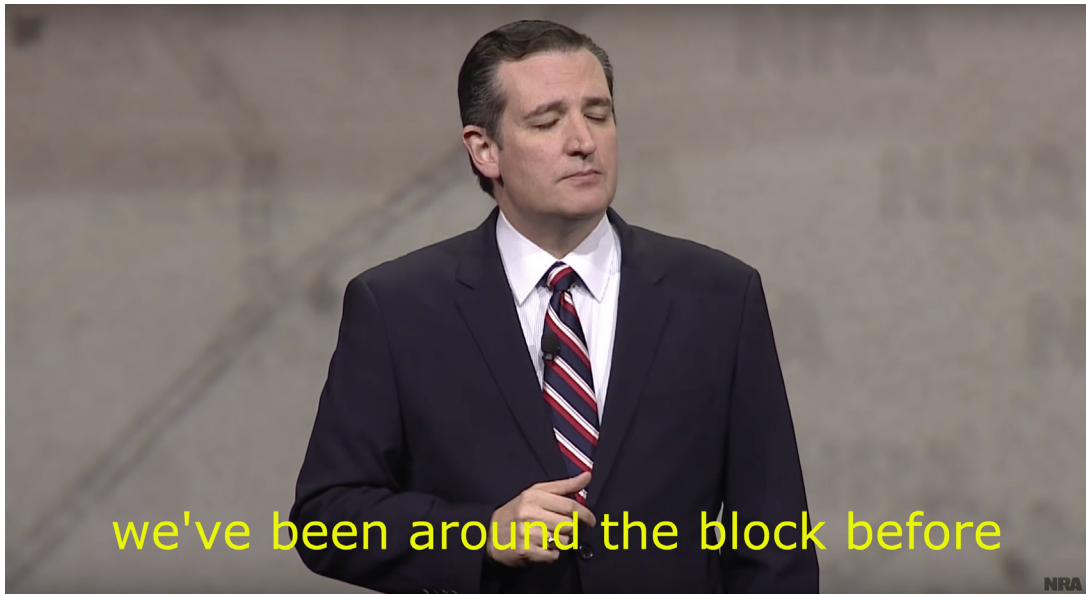
[View this email in your browser](#)



FULL COLOR SPIRIT BANDS



EXCERPTED FROM THE NRA-ILA 2015 LEADERSHIP FORUM:



^submitted by: Grant H-M



CLICK TO SEE YOUR SCHOOL'S SPIRIT BANDS!

y'all I'm here in the omen office, the only person, and I haven't had anything to do since I got here because B already laid it all out!! it's pretty chilly in here people keep passing by and I keep hoping that it's SOMEONE FOR THE OMEN but it never is never they just go past never stopping forever through the merrill a hallways where are they even going, what do firsties do with their evenings? they're going the wrong way for the night truck

YO IF YOU'RE A FIRSTIE

please submit and tell us what you do with your nights

what is it that's better than the omen? the omen loves you. the omen loves your submissions, maybe even more

this is a GREAT WAY to get Involved. if you don't do anything with your thursday nights (in which case, why aren't you here??) maybe this is your way in! submit content, come to the omen and lay out your content

learn indesign, have job skills and resumé fodder
entertain me

if you submit content there'll be fewer jlash shoops

most of the good ones have already happened, it's all downhill from here
or you could submit your own

lack of content is how the elvidillos happened

firsties, do you even know the elvidillos

do you want to

submit to the next omen, or you might

at the time of writing this there are literally seven submissions, then this

I have plans for one more

please send help omen@hampshire.edu



submitted by Rowan Lupton ^^

WE
READ TO
KNOW
WE'RE
NOT
ALONE.

-WILLIAM NICHOLSON, SHADOWLANDS